

Message Text

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12

ACTION EUR-12

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, PINT, TU

SUBJ: TURKISH MUNICIPAL WORKERS DISAFFILIATE FROM TURKISH
CONFEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS.

BY A VOTE OF 223 TO 3 IN AN EXTRAORDINARY CONVENTION ON AGUST
3, THE MUNICIPAL WORKERS UNION (GENEL-IS) DECIDED TO DIS-
AFFILIATE FROM THE TURKISH CONFEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS
(TURK-IS). CONVENTION ALSO DECIDED TO AUTHORIZE THE UNION'S
MANAGEMENT BOARD TO ESTABLISH A COMPETING CONFEDERATION, TO
JOIN THE CONFEDERATION OF TURKISH REVOLUTIONARY/REFORMISTS
TRADE UNIONS (DISK), OR TO REMAIN INDEPENDENT. TURK-IS
WAS REPRESENTED BY ITS FINANCIAL SECRETARY, OMER ERGUN;
SENATOR HALIL TUNC, TURK-IS PRESIDENT, DECLINED TO ATTEND.
DETAILS FOLLOW IN AN AIRGRAM.

COMMENT: GENEL-IS IS ONE OF THE MAJOR UNIONS IN TURK-IS
AND ITS STRUGGLE HAS BEEN LONG AND TO SOME EXTEND BITTER
ABOUT: (1) JURISDICTIONAL PROBLEMS RESULTING FROM CHANGING
REGULATIONS WITH CHANGING GOVERNMENTS; (2) POLITICAL UNIONISM
ALONG EUROPEAN LINES FAVORED BY GENEL-IS AS OPPOSED
TO TURK-IS' ABOVE-PARTY POLICY; AND (3) A STRONG PERSONAL
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ANIMOSITY BETWEEN TUNC AND GENEL-IS PRESIDENT, ABDULLAH

BASTURK(MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLICAN PEOPLES PARTY--RPP). THIS WAS A CONVENTION ATTENDED LARGELY BY MAVERICKS AND NO MESSAGE FROM NATIONALLY PROMINENT PEOPLE OR LEADING RPP PERSONALITIES WERE RECEIVED. MOREOVER, NOT RPT NOT ONE OF BASTURK'S TRADE UNION COLLEAGUES IN THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC OPPOSITION WITHIN TURK-IS ATTENDED, ALTHOUGH ALL WERE INVITED. FOR THE TIME BEING GENEL-IS IS EXPECTED TO REMAIN INDEPENDENT AND TO TRY TO PERSUADE OTHER UNIONS TO LEAVE TURK-IS; HOWEVER, FOR THE NEAR FUTURE, ON UNION ONLY MAY DO SO, THE RESTURANT AND HOTEL WORKERS (OLEY-IS).
MACOMBER

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